

CLAIMS

1. A computer readable medium having a data packet stored therein for causing a functional change in the operation of a device, said  
5 data packet comprising:  
a) a scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion; and  
b) a header data portion corresponding to said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion, said header data portion including information adapted to be used by a transcoder to efficiently transcode said  
10 scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion.

2. The computer readable medium of Claim 1 wherein said data packet stored therein further comprises:  
a truncation point identified within said scalably encoded,  
15 progressively encrypted data portion, said identified truncation point enabling said transcoder to perform efficient transcoding of said data packet.

3. The computer readable medium of Claim 1 wherein said header  
20 data portion of said data packet stored therein is encrypted.

4. The computer readable medium of Claim 1 wherein said information included in said header data portion of said data packet stored therein enables said transcoder to transcode said scalably encoded,  
25 progressively encrypted data portion without decrypting said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion.

5. The computer readable medium of Claim 1 wherein said information included in said header data portion of said data packet  
30 stored therein enables said transcoder to transcode said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion without re-encrypting said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion.

6. The computer readable medium of Claim 1 wherein said  
35 information included in said header data portion of said data packet stored therein enables said transcoder to transcode said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion without decoding said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion.

7. The computer readable medium of Claim 1 wherein said information included in said header data portion of said data packet stored therein enables said transcoder to transcode said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion without re-encoding said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion.

8. The computer readable medium of Claim 1 having a data packet stored therein for causing a functional change in the operation of a device wherein said device is selected from the group comprising: general purpose networked computer systems, embedded computer systems, routers, switches, server devices, client devices, various intermediate devices/nodes, and stand alone computer systems.

9. The computer readable medium of Claim 1 having a data packet stored therein for causing a functional change in the operation of a device wherein said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion is selected from the group comprising scalably encoded, progressively encrypted: video data, audio data, image data, graphic data, and web page data.

10. A computer readable medium having a data packet stored therein for causing a functional change in the operation of a device, said data packet comprising:

a) a scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion, said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data having a truncation point identified therein, said identified truncation point enabling a transcoder to perform efficient transcoding of said data packet; and

b) a header data portion corresponding to said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion, said header data portion including information adapted to be used by a transcoder to efficiently transcode said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion, said information included in said header data portion of said data packet stored therein enabling said transcoder to transcode said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion without decrypting, decoding, re-encrypting, and re-coding said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion.

11. The computer readable medium of Claim 10 wherein said header data portion of said data packet stored therein is encrypted.

12. The computer readable medium of Claim 10 having a data packet stored therein for causing a functional change in the operation of a device wherein said device is selected from the group comprising: general purpose networked computer systems, embedded computer systems, routers, switches, server devices, client devices, various intermediate devices/nodes, and stand alone computer systems.

13. The computer readable medium of Claim 10 having a data packet stored therein for causing a functional change in the operation of a device wherein said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion is selected from the group comprising scalably encoded, progressively encrypted: video data, audio data, image data, graphic data, and web page data.

14. A computer readable medium having a data packet stored therein for causing a functional change in the operation of a device, said data packet comprising:

a scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion, said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data having a truncation point identified therein, said identified truncation point enabling a transcoder to perform efficient transcoding of said data packet; and

said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion assembled by an encoding system such that said transcoder can transcode said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion without decrypting, decoding, re-encrypting, and re-coding said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion.

15. The computer readable medium of Claim 14 having a data packet stored therein for causing a functional change in the operation of a device wherein said device is selected from the group comprising: general purpose networked computer systems, embedded computer systems, routers, switches, server devices, client devices, various intermediate devices/nodes, and stand alone computer systems.

16. The computer readable medium of Claim 14 having a data packet stored therein for causing a functional change in the operation of a device wherein said scalably encoded, progressively encrypted data portion is selected from the group comprising scalably encoded, progressively encrypted: video data, audio data, image data, graphic data,

and web page data.

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